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June 7, 2005

Date of Deposit

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 1646

BERNASCONI ET AL.

Examiner: M.T. Brannock

APPLICATION NO: 09/955,381

FILED: SEPTEMBER 18, 2001

FOR: USE OF GABAB RECEPTOR LIGANDS FOR THE TREATMENT OF
NEURODEGENERATIVE DISEASES

Commissioner for Patents
 PO Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Office Action of December 9, 2004 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on March 9, 2005. A three-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis in the amount of \$1020 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: June 7, 2005